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STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
W. F. COGSWELL, M. D., SECRETARY

HEALTH REVIEW

July 15, 1927.

SPOTTED FEVER. The 1927 spotted fever season is about over. Up to July 11 there were 35 cases of this disease reported in Montana with 3 deaths. Last year there were 36 cases reported with 15 deaths. Only 3 cases occurred in the Bitter Root Valley this year outside of the laboratory cases, - one in Missoula County and two in Ravalli County. This is a marked decrease in these counties over former years. We cannot but believe that this is due to the fact that a large number of people were vaccinated against the disease. There were 1,276 vaccinations done in the Bitter Root Valley. No deaths have occurred in people who have taken the Spencer-Parker vaccine.

Cases were reported from the following counties: Big Horn County, 2 cases; Fallon County 3 cases; Garfield County 5 cases, 1 death; Golden Valley County 2 cases; Jefferson County 1 case; Lewis and Clark County 1 case; Missoula County 1 case; Musselshell County 2 cases; Petroleum County 1 case; Phillips County 1 case; Prairie County 1 case; Ravalli County 3 cases, 1 death; Rosebud County 6 cases, 1 death; Stillwater County 1 case; Treasure County 1 case; Valley County 1 case; Yellowstone County 3 cases.

There have been no cases of tick paralysis reported this year and only one case of tularaemia, which occurred in Fallon County.

Much work is being done in developing the tick parasite. This parasite develops rapidly under laboratory conditions and performs its duties splendidly. Whether or not it will do this in nature remains to be seen. Experiments are now being conducted by the State Board of Entomology to settle this question.

DIPHTHERIA. There has been a marked decrease in the number of deaths in Montana from diphtheria during the past six years, as the following figures will show:

Year.	No. Deaths.	Rate per 100,000	Year.	No. Deaths.	Rate per 100,000
1921	49	8.9	1924	57	10.4
1922	64	11.7	1925	32	5.8
1923	50	9.1	1926	15	2.7

This decrease in the death rate from this disease is no doubt due to the intensive campaign that was put on for the administration of toxin-anti-toxin to the school children. A large majority of these deaths were in children of the pre-school age, which shows that the campaign should not be confined to school children but should include all children over six months of age.

CURRENT DISEASE STATISTICS.

	Reported for weeks ending	
	July 2	July 9
Tuberculosis,	1	5
Typhoid fever,	2	0
Smallpox,	6	9
Diphthoria,	1	1
Scarlet fever,	9	20
Measles,	27	7
Whooping cough,	6	9
Chickenpox,	3	2
Mumps,	0	2
Epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis,	2	2
Rocky Mountain spotted fever,	6	1
Tularaemia,	1	0
Other diseases,	12	0

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W. F. COGSWELL,
Secretary.



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